IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Patent Examiner: Not yet assigned

Shinya Kadono et al

Group Art Unit: 2624

Serial No.: 10/569,871

Confirmation No. 8451

Filed: February 28, 2006

For: PICTURE CODING METHOD,

PICTURE DECODING METHOD,

April 5, 2007

PICTURE CODING APPARATUS,

Costa Mesa, California 92626

PICTURE DECODING APPARATUS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sirs:

Prior to the examination of the merits of the above-identified case, please enter the following: